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09/769,380	01/26/2001	Shinichi Nojima	1614.1119	5766

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	09/769,380	NOJIMA ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Tran A. Quoc	2176	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>20 February 2007</u>.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) <u>1-27</u> is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) <u>1-27</u> is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1.   This is a **Non-Final** rejection in response to RCE filed on 02-20-2007.

2.   Claims 1-27 are pending.

3.   Effective filing date is 01-26-2001, priority date 07-26-2000.

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

4.   A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in

37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is

eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e)

has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to

37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 2-20-2007 has been entered.

Claims Rejections – 35 U.S.C. 101

35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

5.   Claims 1-14, and 26-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. In particular, although these claims are direct to an "a computer", the body of the claims recites various steps " detecting section...selecting section...and displaying section..." which appear directed to software per se, since the specification, at para 15, describes that the "a computer having a character input function, comprising a detecting section ... a display section displaying ...and an issuing ...which has the character input function and then starting another program." is not recites in conjunction with a physical structure (computer readable medium, memory), it appears that these claims are directed to software per se, which is non-statutory.

In addition, functional descriptive/non-functional descriptive material is recorded on some computer-readable medium; it becomes structurally and functionally interrelated to the medium and will be statutory in most cases since use of technology permits the function of the descriptive material to be realized. Compare In re Lowry, 32 F.3d 1579, 1583-84, 32 USPQ2d 1031, 1035 (Fed. Cir. 1994)(discussing patentable weight of data structure limitations in the context of a statutory claim to a data structure stored on a computer readable medium that increases computer efficiency) and Warmerdam, 33 F.3d at 1360-61, 31 USPQ2d at 1759 (claim to computer having a specific data structure stored in memory held statutory product-by-process claim) with Warmerdam, 33 F.3d at 1361, 31 USPQ2d at 1760 (claim to a data structure per se

held nonstatutory) also see MPEP 106.01 [R5].

In the interest of compact prosecution, the application is further examined against the

prior art, as stated below, upon the assumption that the applicants may overcome the above

stated rejections under 35 U.S.C. 101.

Claims Rejections – 35 U.S.C. 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the

basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999

(AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology Technical Amendments Act of 2002

do not apply when the reference is a U.S. patent resulting directly or indirectly from an

international application filed before November 29, 2000. Therefore, the prior art date of the

reference is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA

35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

102(e)

6.   Claim 25 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 10(c) as being anticipated by <u>Onishi</u> et al.
DK
US006154720A- filed Jun. 13, 1996 (hereinafter Onishi).
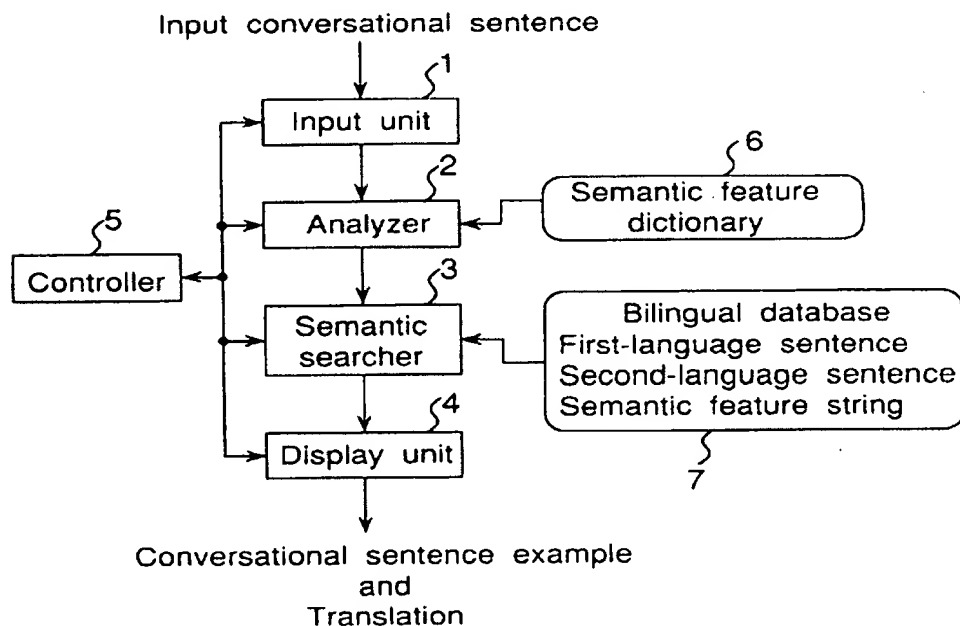
Regarding **independent claim 25**, Onishi teaches:

> **A method for processing, comprising: receiving a character string**
>
> **input from a user; selecting, by a processor, at least one program while**
>
> **characters of the input character string are being input until the input**
>
> **characters of the character string are defined; and displaying output from**
>
> **the program.**

(See, Onishi Fig. 1 and also col. 16 lines 35-60, teaching an input unit 1 to which a natural

conversational sentence in a first language, or a source language, is entered freely by the user, an

analyzer 2, a semantic searcher 3 and a display unit 4 for displaying the result from

unit 1.

Also, see Onishi col. 80, line 61, teaching automaton processor, which scans the whole

input character string to search for specific character strings.)

Fig.1

Input conversational sentence

Input unit	(1)
Analyzer	(2)
Semantic feature dictionary	(6)
Controller	(5)
Semantic searcher	(3)
Bilingual database First-language sentence Second-language sentence Semantic feature string	(7)
Display unit	(4)

Conversational sentence example
and
Translation

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

7.   **Claims 1-24, and 26-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable by**

Doi et al. US006247010B1 –filed Aug. 31, 1998 (hereinafter Doi), in view of Onishi et al.

US006154720A- filed Jun. 13, 1996 (hereinafter Onishi).

Regarding independent **claim 15**, Doi teaches:

A method of carryout a process depending on input character,

comprising: detecting a keyword from a character string that is being input

by the character input function;

(See, Doi col. 3 lines 50-55, teaching analyzing text entered by a user and extracting a search

keyword.

Also, see Doi FIG. 2 col. 7 lines 10-15, teaching text (character strings) the user entered

from the input device 21 and screen positional information on characters displayed on the screen

are entered from the input-controlling module 24. Using the broadest reasonable interpretation

the Examiner reads the claimed **detecting a keyword** as a search keyword as taught by Doi.

FIG. 2

```
                    ( TEXT ENTRY )
                          |
                          |            S1
              ┌───────────────────────┐
              │  PERFORM MORPHEMIC     │
              │      ANALYSIS          │
              └───────────────────────┘
                          |
                          |        S2
                       ╱─────╲
                      ╱  IS A  ╲
                     ╱ WORD TO BE ╲      NO
                    ⟨ USED AS A SEARCH ⟩────────┐
                     ╲ KEY FOUND? ╱             │
                      ╲─────────╱               │
                          |                     │
                        YES                     │
                          |          S3         │
              ┌───────────────────────┐         │
              │ STORE THE SEARCH KEY   │         │
              │   AND ITS POSITIONAL   │         │
              │ INFORMATION IN A FREE  │         │
              │  ENTRY OF THE RELATED  │         │
              │INFORMATION TEMPORARY   │         │
              │    STORAGE MODULE.     │         │
              └───────────────────────┘         │
                          |          S4         │
              ┌───────────────────────┐         │
              │  SEND THE SEARCH KEY   │         │
              │     TO THE RELATED     │         │
              │ INFORMATION SEARCHING  │         │
              │  MODULE AND ASK IT TO  │         │
              │    START THE SEARCH.   │         │
              └───────────────────────┘         │
                          |          S5         │
              ┌───────────────────────┐         │
              │  START THE SEARCH      │         │
              │     INSTRUCTION        │         │
              │ ACCEPTANCE DISPLAY     │         │
              │  CONTROLLING MODULE.   │         │
              └───────────────────────┘         │
                          |                     │
                          |←────────────────────┘
                     (  END  )
```
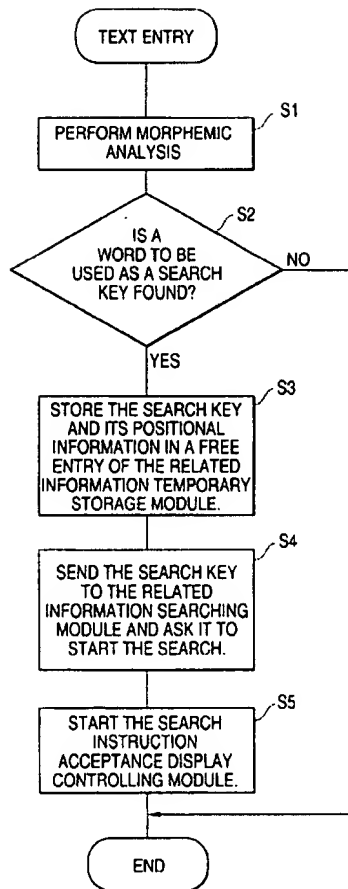
and issuing a search request for dictionary data specified by the keyword in a

dictionary, which is selected as a search target on the menu screen with

respect to a dictionary search program;

(See Doi col. 7 lines 55- 65, teaching search a search is performed for a keyword previously

stored in the database which matches the search key, and If such a word is not found, a fuzzy-

match search is performed to find a word similar to the search key by allowing diverse

expressions therefor, or a thesaurus or a similar-word dictionary is used to find an alternative

word for the search key by expanding the search key.)

> **wherein said issuing issues the search request for the dictionary data**
>
> **specified by the keyword, with respect to a plurality of dictionaries which are**
>
> **selected as search targets while characters of the input character string are**
>
> **being input until the input characters of the character string are defined.**

(See Doi col. 7 lines 55- 65, teaching search a search is performed for a keyword previously

stored in the database which matches the search key, and If such a word is not found, a fuzzy-

match search is performed to find a word similar to the search key by allowing diverse

expressions therefor, or a thesaurus or a similar-word dictionary is used to find an alternative

word for the search key by expanding the search key.

Also, see Doi col. 7 line 65 through col. 8 line 10, teaching a plurality of similar

databases may be searched. For example, when searching for an English word, a search is made

to find a matching word in an English-Japanese dictionary and, if no match is found, an English-

English dictionary is searched. There are several other pairs of databases, which may contain
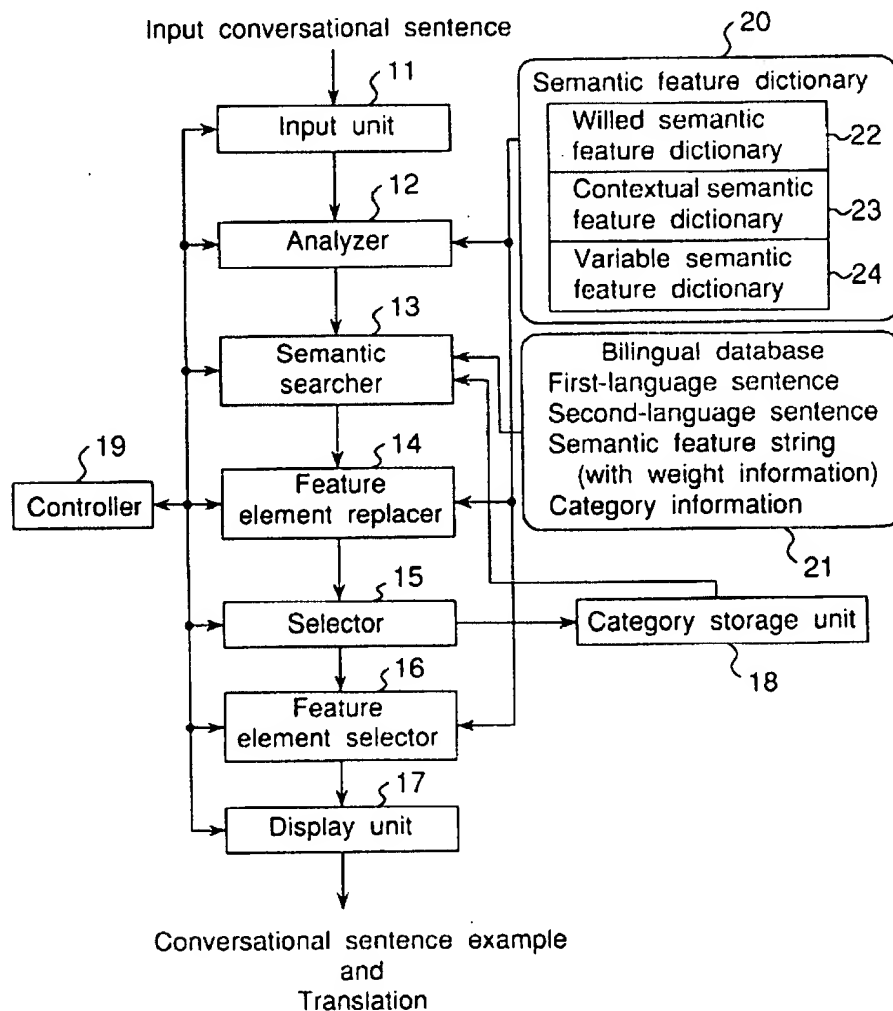
similar words.)

In addition, Doi does not explicitly teach, but Onishi teaches:

> **displaying a menu screen indicating registered dictionaries when the**
>
> **keyword is detected by said detecting section;**

(See, Onishi Fig. 5 col. 21 lines 20-30, teaching Onishi col. 35 line 55, teaching the semantic

feature dictionary 20 is composed of a willed semantic feature dictionary 22, a contextual

semantic feature dictionary 23, and a variable semantic feature dictionary 24, which will be

described in detail below.

Also, see Onishi col. 20 line 55, teaching element selector 16, and display unit 17 for

displaying a finally selected conversational sentence. Using the broadest reasonable

interpretation, the Examiner equates the claimed **registered dictionaries** as equivalent to

dictionaries items 22-23 of Fig.5, as taught by Onishi.)

Fig.5

Input conversational sentence

Conversational sentence example
and
Translation

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to have modified Doi's related information search method, to include a

means of displaying a menu screen indicating registered dictionaries when the keyword is

detected by said detecting section as taught by Onishi. One of the ordinary skills in the art would

have been motivated to modify this combination, because they are from the same field of

endeavor of related information search method and provide the advantage of allowing user get

information on the presence or absence of information related to entered text without requiring

the user to enter an explicit search instruction and a search key and without immediately

displaying related information. Therefore, this system does not interrupt user document

formulation more often than the above two systems (see Doi col. 2 line 65 through col. 3 line 5).

Regarding **independent claim 16,** the rejection of claim 15 is fully incorporated.

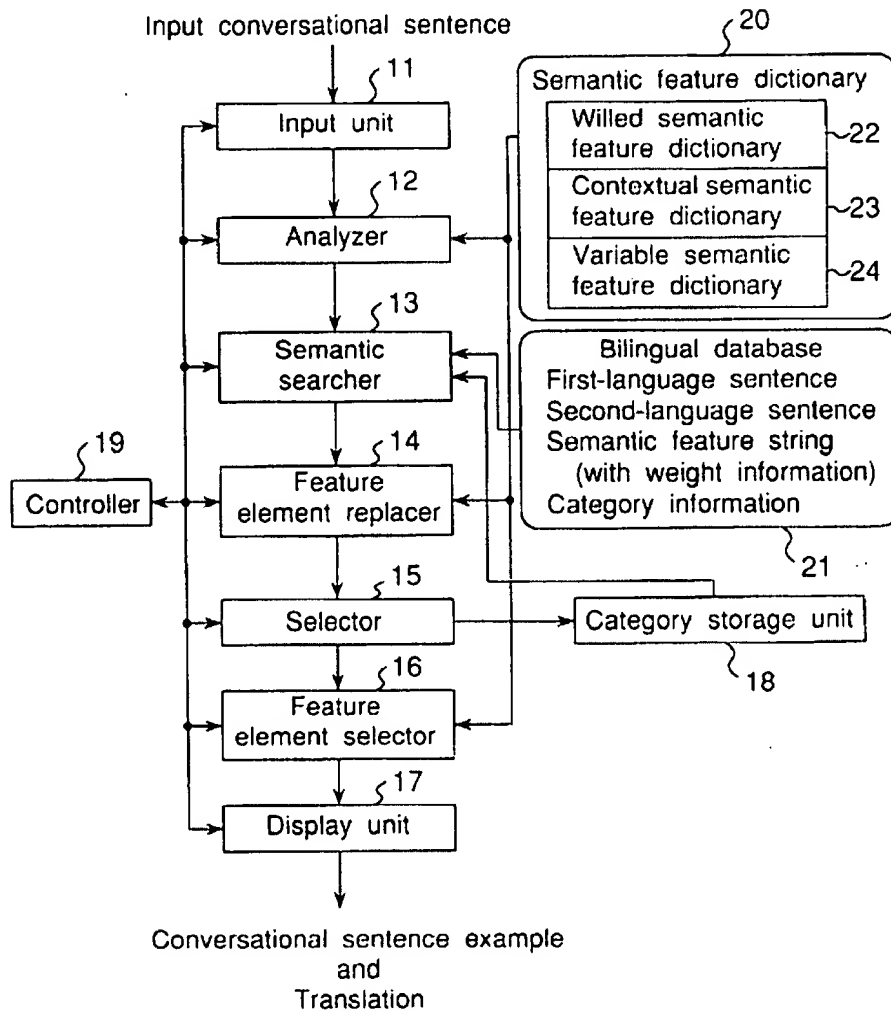In addition, Doi does not explicitly teach, but Onishi teaches:

> **displaying a menu screen indicating registered programs when the**
>
> **keyword is detected by said detecting section;**

(See, Onishi Fig. 5 col. 21 lines 20-30, teaching Onishi col. 35 line 55, teaching the semantic

feature dictionary 20 is composed of a willed semantic feature dictionary 22, a contextual

semantic feature dictionary 23, and a variable semantic feature dictionary 24, which will be

described in detail below.

Also, see Onishi col. 20 line 55, teaching element selector 16, and display unit 17 for

displaying a finally selected conversational sentence. Using the broadest reasonable

interpretation, the Examiner equates the claimed **registered programs** as equivalent to

dictionaries items 22-23 of Fig.5, as taught by Onishi.)

Fig.5

Input conversational sentence

Semantic feature dictionary `20`

Block	Number
Input unit	11
Analyzer	12
Semantic searcher	13
Feature element replacer	14
Selector	15
Feature element selector	16
Display unit	17

Semantic feature dictionary
- Willed semantic feature dictionary ~22
- Contextual semantic feature dictionary ~23
- Variable semantic feature dictionary ~24

Bilingual database
First-language sentence
Second-language sentence
Semantic feature string
  (with weight information)
Category information
`21`

Controller `19`

Category storage unit
`18`

Conversational sentence example
and
Translation

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to have modified Doi's related information search method, to include a

means of displaying a menu screen indicating registered programs when the keyword is detected

by said detecting section as taught by Onishi. One of the ordinary skills in the art would have

been motivated to modify this combination, because they are from the same field of endeavor of

related information search method and provide the advantage of allowing user get information on

the presence or absence of information related to entered text without requiring the user to enter

an explicit search instruction and a search key and without immediately displaying related

information. Therefore, this system does not interrupt user document formulation more often

than the above two systems (see Doi col. 2 line 65 through col. 3 line 5).

Regarding **independent claim 17,** the rejection of claim 15 is fully incorporated.

In addition, Doi teaches:

> **wherein said starting the program while characters of the input**
>
> **character string are being input until the input characters of the character**
>
> **string are defined.**

(See Doi col. 7 lines 55- 65, teaching search a search is performed for a keyword previously

stored in the database which matches the search key, and If such a word is not found, a fuzzy-

match search is performed to find a word similar to the search key by allowing diverse

expressions therefor, or a thesaurus or a similar-word dictionary is used to find an alternative

word for the search key by expanding the search key.

Also, see Doi col. 7 line 65 through col. 8 line 10, teaching a plurality of similar

databases may be searched. For example, when searching for an English word, a search is made

to find a matching word in an English-Japanese dictionary and, if no match is found, an English-

English dictionary is searched. There are several other pairs of databases, which may contain

similar words. Using the broadest reasonable interpretation, the Examiner equates the claimed

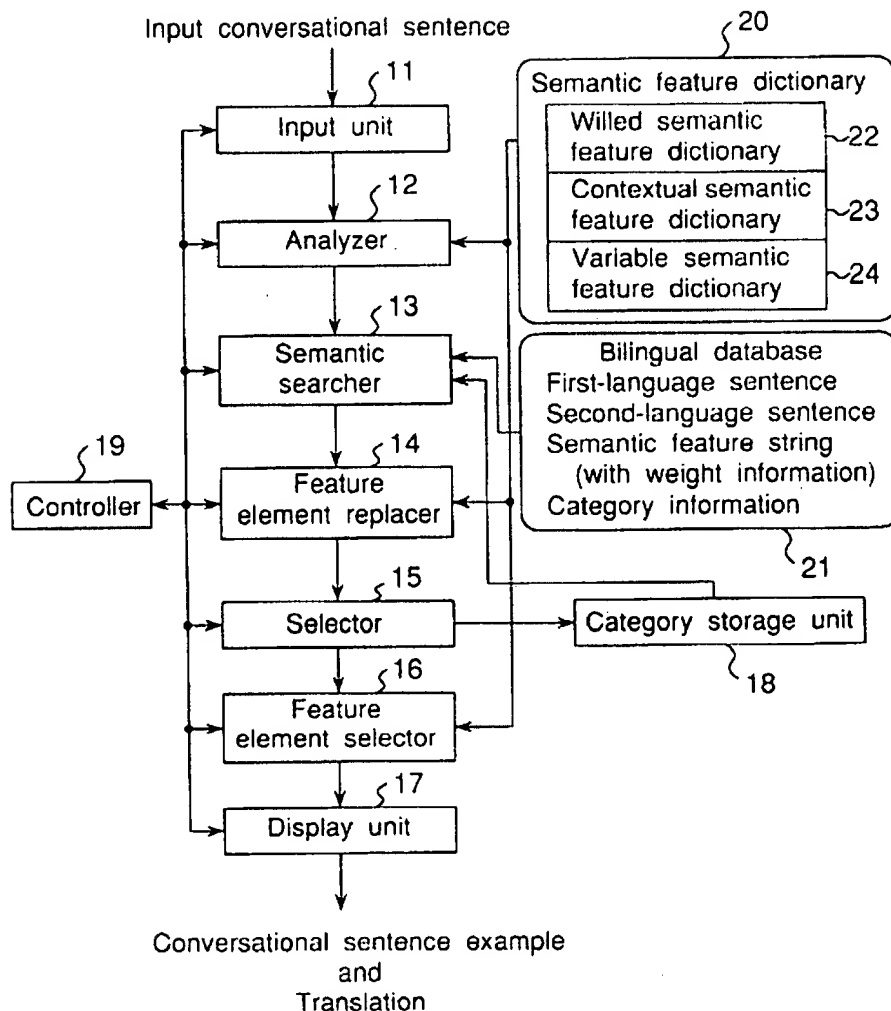**starting the program** as equivalent to a search is performed for a keyword as taught by Doi.)

In addition, Doi does not explicitly teach, but Onishi teaches:

> **displaying a menu screen used for starting a program corresponding**
>
> **to the keyword when the keyword is detected by said keyword detecting; and**
>
> **starting the program corresponding to the keyword when a program start**
>
> **request is issued using the menu screen;**

(See, Onishi Fig. 5 col. 21 lines 20-30, teaching Onishi col. 35 line 55, teaching the semantic

feature dictionary 20 is composed of a willed semantic feature dictionary 22, a contextual

semantic feature dictionary 23, and a variable semantic feature dictionary 24, which will be

described in detail below.

Also, see Onishi col. 20 line 55, teaching element selector 16, and display unit 17 for

displaying a finally selected conversational sentence. Using the broadest reasonable

interpretation, the Examiner equates the claimed **a program corresponding to the keyword** as

equivalent to as equivalent to dictionaries items 22-23 of Fig.5, as taught by Onishi.)

Fig.5

Input conversational sentence

20

Semantic feature dictionary
- Willed semantic feature dictionary ~22
- Contextual semantic feature dictionary ~23
- Variable semantic feature dictionary ~24

11 — Input unit

12 — Analyzer

13 — Semantic searcher

Bilingual database
First-language sentence
Second-language sentence
Semantic feature string
  (with weight information)
Category information

21

19 — Controller

14 — Feature element replacer

15 — Selector → Category storage unit

18

16 — Feature element selector

17 — Display unit

Conversational sentence example
and
Translation

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to have modified Doi's related information search method, to include a

means of displaying a menu screen used for starting a program corresponding to the keyword

when the keyword is detected by said keyword detecting; and starting the program corresponding

to the keyword when a program start request is issued using the menu screen as taught by Onishi.

One of the ordinary skills in the art would have been motivated to modify this combination,

because they are from the same field of endeavor of related information search method and

provide the advantage of allowing user get information on the presence or absence of

information related to entered text without requiring the user to enter an explicit search

instruction and a search key and without immediately displaying related information. Therefore,

this system does not interrupt user document formulation more often than the above two systems

(see Doi col. 2 line 65 through col. 3 line 5).

Regarding **independent claim 18,** the rejection of claim 15 is fully incorporated.

In addition, Doi teaches:

> **starting a conversion program which is selected using the menu screen**
>
> **to subject the keyword to a conversion according to the selected conversion**
>
> **program; wherein said starting starts the conversion program while**
>
> **characters of the input character string are being input until the input**
>
> **characters of the character string are defined.**

(See Doi col. 7, line 65 through col. 8, line 10, teaching a plurality of similar databases may be

searched. That is, one database is searched first and, if no match is found, the next database is

searched. For example, when searching for an English word, a search is made to find a matching

word in an English-Japanese dictionary and, if no match is found, an English-English dictionary

is searched. Examples are a Japanese dictionary and a dictionary of classical Chinese-Japanese,

newspaper data and magazine data, a Japanese document and a foreign-language document, a

system-prepared database and a user-prepared database.

Also Doi at col. 2 lines 20-25, describes the kana-kanji translation (conversion) function,

automatically searches for a sample of candidate kanji characters corresponding to the kana

characters being entered. Using the broadest reasonable interpretation, the Examiner equates the

claimed **conversion program** as equivalent English-Japanese dictionary, an English-English

dictionary, Japanese dictionary and a dictionary of classical Chinese-Japanese, newspaper data

and magazine data, a Japanese document and a foreign-language document, those are used in the

kana-kanji translation (conversion) function as discloses by Doi.)

In addition, Doi does not explicitly teach, but Onishi teaches:

> **displaying a menu screen indicating registered conversion programs**
>
> **when the keyword is detected by said keyword detecting;**

(See, Onishi Fig. 5 col. 21 lines 20-30, teaching Onishi col. 35 line 55, teaching the semantic

feature dictionary 20 is composed of a willed semantic feature dictionary 22, a contextual

semantic feature dictionary 23, and a variable semantic feature dictionary 24, which will be

described in detail below.

Also, see Onishi col. 91, lines 25-30, discloses at step S197, a menu screen is displayed

by the selector 93 to allow the user to select one out of the first-language sentences of currently

selected conversational sentence examples. Then, the selected first-language sentence is

recognized; and at step S198 the display contents of the display screen are switched to a second-

language sentence corresponding to the selected first-language sentence by the display unit 94.

After that, the conversational sentence translating operation is ended. Using the broadest

reasonable interpretation, the Examiner equates the claimed **registered conversion programs** as

equivalent to conversational sentence translating as taught by Onishi.)

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to have modified Doi's related information search method, to include a

means of displaying a menu screen used for starting a program corresponding to the keyword

when the keyword is detected by said keyword detecting; and starting the program corresponding

to the keyword when a program start request is issued using the menu screen as taught by Onishi.

One of the ordinary skills in the art would have been motivated to modify this combination,

because they are from the same field of endeavor of related information search method and

provide the advantage of allowing user get information on the presence or absence of

information related to entered text without requiring the user to enter an explicit search

instruction and a search key and without immediately displaying related information. Therefore,

this system does not interrupt user document formulation more often than the above two systems

(see Doi col. 2 line 65 through col. 3 line 5).

Regarding **independent claim 19,** the rejection of claim 15 is fully incorporated.

In addition, Doi does not explicitly teach, but Onishi teaches:

> **displaying a menu screen in response to a predetermined operation in**
>
> **a state where the keyword is detected by said keyword detecting;**

(See, Onishi Fig. 5 col. 21 lines 20-30, teaching Onishi col. 35 line 55, teaching the semantic

feature dictionary 20 is composed of a willed semantic feature dictionary 22, a contextual

semantic feature dictionary 23, and a variable semantic feature dictionary 24, which will be described in detail below.

Also, see Onishi col. 91, lines 25-30, discloses at step S197, a menu screen is displayed by the selector 93 to allow the user to select one out of the first-language sentences of currently selected conversational sentence examples. Then, the selected first-language sentence is recognized; and at step S198 the display contents of the display screen are switched to a second-language sentence corresponding to the selected first-language sentence by the display unit 94. After that, the conversational sentence translating operation is ended. Using the broadest reasonable interpretation, the Examiner equates the claimed **registered conversion programs** as equivalent to conversational sentence translating as taught by Onishi.

Also, see Onishi col. 3 lines 65-67, teaching displaying the conversational sentence example selected by the semantic searcher and the translation thereof.

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Doi's related information search method, to include a means of displaying a menu screen in response to a predetermined operation in a state where the keyword is detected by said keyword detecting as taught by Onishi. One of the ordinary skills in the art would have been motivated to modify this combination, because they are from the same field of endeavor of related information search method and provide the advantage of allowing user get information on the presence or absence of information related to entered text without requiring the user to enter an explicit search instruction and a search key and without immediately displaying related information. Therefore, this system does not interrupt user

document formulation more often than the above two systems (see Doi col. 2 line 65 through col.

3 line 5).

Regarding **independent claims 1, 4, 8, 11, and 14 respectively,**

>   are directed a computer to perform the method of claims 15-19 respectively which

>   cites above, and are similarly rejected under the same rationale.

Regarding **independent claims 20-24 respectively,**

>   are directed a computer-readable storage medium to perform the method of claims

>   15-19 respectively which cites above, and are similarly rejected under the same rationale.

Regarding **independent claims 26-27,**

>   are directed a computer to perform the method of claims 15-16 respectively which

>   cites above, and are similarly rejected under the same rationale.

Regarding **claim 2,**

>   is directed a computer to perform the method of claim 15 which cites above, and

>   is similarly rejected under the same rationale.

Regarding **claim 3,**

>   is directed a computer to perform the method of claim 15 which cites above, and

>   is similarly rejected under the same rationale. In addition,

Doi does not explicitly teach, but Onishi teaches:

the computer as claimed in claim 1, further comprising: an ending

section ending a started program in response to a selection made on the

menu screen when a define instruction is made to define input characters of

the character string.

(See, Onishi Fig. 5 col. 21 lines 20-30, teaching Onishi col. 35 line 55, teaching the semantic

feature dictionary 20 is composed of a willed semantic feature dictionary 22, a contextual

semantic feature dictionary 23, and a variable semantic feature dictionary 24, which will be

described in detail below.

Also, see Onishi col. 91, lines 25-30, discloses at step S197, a menu screen is displayed

by the selector 93 to allow the user to select one out of the first-language sentences of currently

selected conversational sentence examples. Then, the selected first-language sentence is

recognized; and at step S198 the display contents of the display screen are switched to a second-

language sentence corresponding to the selected first-language sentence by the display unit 94.

After that, the conversational sentence translating operation is ended.

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to have modified Doi's related information search method, to include an

ending section ending a started program in response to a selection made on the menu screen

when a define instruction is made to define input characters of the character string as taught by

Onishi. One of the ordinary skills in the art would have been motivated to modify this

combination, because they are from the same field of endeavor of related information search

method and provide the advantage of allowing user get information on the presence or absence

of information related to entered text without requiring the user to enter an explicit search

instruction and a search key and without immediately displaying related information. Therefore,

this system does not interrupt user document formulation more often than the above two systems

(see Doi col. 2 line 65 through col. 3 line 5).

Regarding **claim 5,**

> is directed a computer to perform the method of claim 16 which cites above,

> and is similarly rejected under the same rationale.

In addition, Doi teaches:

> **according to an interactive process;**

(See, Doi col. 3 lines 50-55, teaching analyzing text entered by a user and extracting a search

keyword.)

Regarding **claim 6,**

> is directed a computer to perform the method of claim 16 which cites above,

> and is similarly rejected under the same rationale.

In addition, Doi teaches:

> **wherein said display section displays a program, which cannot be**

> **started by the keyword on the menu screen with a format, which indicates**

> **that the program cannot be started.**

(See Doi col. 7, line 65 through col. 8, line 10, teaching a plurality of similar databases may be

searched. That is, one database is searched first and, if no match is found, the next database is

searched. For example, when searching for an English word, a search is made to find a matching

word in an English-Japanese dictionary and, if no match is found, an English-English dictionary

is searched. Examples are a Japanese dictionary and a dictionary of classical Chinese-Japanese,

newspaper data and magazine data, a Japanese document and a foreign-language document, a

system-prepared database and a user-prepared database.)

Regarding **claim 7,**

   is directed a computer to perform the method of claim 16 which cites above,

  and is similarly rejected under the same rationale. In addition,

Doi does not explicitly teach, but Onishi teaches:

    an ending section ending a started program in response to a selection

    made on the menu screen when a define instruction is made to define input

    characters of the character string.

(See, Onishi Fig. 5 col. 21 lines 20-30, teaching Onishi col. 35 line 55, teaching the semantic

feature dictionary 20 is composed of a willed semantic feature dictionary 22, a contextual

semantic feature dictionary 23, and a variable semantic feature dictionary 24, which will be

described in detail below.

  Also, see Onishi col. 91, lines 25-30, discloses at step S197, a menu screen is displayed

by the selector 93 to allow the user to select one out of the first-language sentences of currently

selected conversational sentence examples. Then, the selected first-language sentence is

recognized; and at step S198 the display contents of the display screen are switched to a second-

language sentence corresponding to the selected first-language sentence by the display unit 94.

After that, the conversational sentence translating operation is ended.

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to have modified Doi's related information search method, to include an

ending section ending a started program in response to a selection made on the menu screen

when a define instruction is made to define input characters of the character string as taught by

Onishi. One of the ordinary skills in the art would have been motivated to modify this

combination, because they are from the same field of endeavor of related information search

method and provide the advantage of allowing user get information on the presence or absence

of information related to entered text without requiring the user to enter an explicit search

instruction and a search key and without immediately displaying related information. Therefore,

this system does not interrupt user document formulation more often than the above two systems

(see Doi col. 2 line 65 through col. 3 line 5).

Regarding **claim 9**,

is directed to a computer to perform the method of claim 17 which cites

above, and is similarly rejected under the same rationale. In addition,

In addition, Doi teaches:

according to an interactive process;

(See, Doi col. 3 lines 50-55, teaching analyzing text entered by a user and extracting a search

keyword.)

Regarding **claim 10,**

is directed a computer to perform the method of claim 17 which cites

above, and is similarly rejected under the same rationale. In addition,

Doi does not explicitly teach, but Onishi teaches:

an ending section ending a started program in response to a selection

made on the menu screen when a define instruction is made to define input

characters of the character string.

(See, Onishi Fig. 5 col. 21 lines 20-30, teaching Onishi col. 35 line 55, teaching the semantic

feature dictionary 20 is composed of a willed semantic feature dictionary 22, a contextual

semantic feature dictionary 23, and a variable semantic feature dictionary 24, which will be

described in detail below.

Also, see Onishi col. 91, lines 25-30, discloses at step S197, a menu screen is displayed

by the selector 93 to allow the user to select one out of the first-language sentences of currently

selected conversational sentence examples. Then, the selected first-language sentence is

recognized; and at step S198 the display contents of the display screen are switched to a second-

language sentence corresponding to the selected first-language sentence by the display unit 94.

After that, the conversational sentence translating operation is ended.

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to have modified Doi's related information search method, to include an

ending section ending a started program in response to a selection made on the menu screen

when a define instruction is made to define input characters of the character string as taught by

Onishi. One of the ordinary skills in the art would have been motivated to modify this

combination, because they are from the same field of endeavor of related information search

method and provide the advantage of allowing user get information on the presence or absence

of information related to entered text without requiring the user to enter an explicit search

instruction and a search key and without immediately displaying related information. Therefore,

this system does not interrupt user document formulation more often than the above two systems

(see Doi col. 2 line 65 through col. 3 line 5).

Regarding **claim 12,**

is directed a computer to perform the method of claim 18 which cites

above, and is similarly rejected under the same rationale.

In addition, Doi teaches:

the computer as claimed in claim 11, wherein said display section

displays a conversion program which cannot convert the keyword on the

menu screen with a format which indicates that the program cannot convert.

(See Doi col. 7, line 65 through col. 8, line 10, teaching a plurality of similar databases may be

searched. That is, one database is searched first and, if no match is found, the next database is

searched. For example, when searching for an English word, a search is made to find a matching

word in an English-Japanese dictionary and, if <u>no match is found</u>, an English-English dictionary

is searched. Examples are a Japanese dictionary and a dictionary of classical Chinese-Japanese,

newspaper data and magazine data, a Japanese document and a foreign-language document, a

system-prepared database and a user-prepared database.)

Regarding **claim 13,**

is directed a computer to perform the method of claim 18 which cites

above, and is similarly rejected under the same rationale. In addition,

Doi does not explicitly teach, but Onishi teaches:

an ending section ending a started program in response to a selection

made on the menu screen when a define instruction is made to define input

characters of the character string.

(See, Onishi Fig. 5 col. 21 lines 20-30, teaching Onishi col. 35 line 55, teaching the semantic

feature dictionary 20 is composed of a willed semantic feature dictionary 22, a contextual

semantic feature dictionary 23, and a variable semantic feature dictionary 24, which will be

described in detail below.

Also, see Onishi col. 91, lines 25-30, discloses at step S197, a menu screen is displayed

by the selector 93 to allow the user to select one out of the first-language sentences of currently

selected conversational sentence examples. Then, the selected first-language sentence is

recognized; and at step S198 the display contents of the display screen are switched to a second-

language sentence corresponding to the selected first-language sentence by the display unit 94.

After that, the conversational sentence translating operation is ended.

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to have modified Doi's related information search method, to include an

ending section ending a started program in response to a selection made on the menu screen

when a define instruction is made to define input characters of the character string as taught by

Onishi. One of the ordinary skills in the art would have been motivated to modify this

combination, because they are from the same field of endeavor of related information search

method and provide the advantage of allowing user get information on the presence or absence

of information related to entered text without requiring the user to enter an explicit search

instruction and a search key and without immediately displaying related information. Therefore,

this system does not interrupt user document formulation more often than the above two systems

(see Doi col. 2 line 65 through col. 3 line 5).

8.   It is noted that any citations to specific, pages, columns, lines, or figures in the prior art

references and any interpretation of the references should not be considered to be limiting in any

way. A reference is relevant for all it contains and may be relied upon for all that it would have

reasonably suggested to one having ordinary skill in the art. See, MPEP 2123.

Response to Argument

9.   Applicant's Remarks filed on 02-20-2007 with respect to claim 1-25 have been

considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection. This office action is a Non-

Final Rejection in order to give the applicant sufficient opportunity to response to the new line of
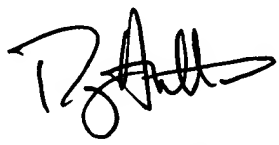
rejection.

Conclusion

10.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Tran A. Quoc whose telephone number is 571-272-8664. The

examiner can normally be reached on 9AM - 5PM EST.

        If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Heather R. Herndon can be reached on 571-272-4136. The fax phone number for the

organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

        Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent

Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications

may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished

applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR

system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR

system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would

like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated

information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Quoc A. Tran
Patent Examiner
Technology Center 2176
May-03-2007

Doug Hutton
Primary Examiner
Technology Center 2100